

Message Text

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TAGS: WMO

SUBJ: WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION (WMO) - 29TH

SESSION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, 7-16 JUNE 1977

1. COMMITTEE'S WORK BEING CONDUCTED IN BUSINESSLIKE ATMOSPHERE WITH EMPHASIS ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL MATTERS AND WITHOUT POLITICAL CONTENTION.

2. COMMITTEE REPLACED 5 RETIRING MEMBERS WITH THE FOLLOWING NEWLY ELECTED PERSONS: MITTNER (FRANCE), LINGELBACH (FRG), GODSON (CANADA), M'BELLE-M'BONG (CAMEROONS), GOMEZ (COLUMBIA). EXCEPT FOR M'BELLE-M'BONG, NEW MEMBERS ARE FROM SAME COUNTRIES AS MEMBERS THEY REPLACED.

3. COMITE CONFIRMED ITS DECISION, TAKEN AT LAST SESSION, TO PROCEED WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF FIRST GARP GLOBAL EXPERIMENT (FGGE), THE MAJOR UNDERTAKING OF ORGANIZATION FOR LAST SEVERAL YEARS. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES NOW BEING COMMITTED, BY SHIFTING FROM PROJECTS WITH LOWER PRIORITY, PROMISE A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT. MAJOR SCIENTIFIC OBJECTIVE OF FGGE IS IMPROVEMENT OF METEOROLOGICAL FORECASTS THROUGH THE INTENSIVE AND SYSTEMATIC COLLECTION OF DATA BY EARTH METEOROLOGICAL STATIONS, SATELLITES, SHIPS AND AIRPLANES FROM MANY WMO MEMBER NATIONS. THE EXPERIMENT, TO BE CARRIED OUT

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FROM DECEMBER 1978 TO NOVEMBER 1979, EXPECTED TO GREATLY IMPROVE OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE PHYSICAL BASES OF WEATHER AND CLIMATE.

4. THE USSR MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE HAS CONTINUED TO EXPRESS CONCERN THAT THE EXPERIMENT CANNOT MEET ALL THE ORIGINAL OPERATION REQUIREMENTS. COMMITTEE AGREED,

HOWEVER, THAT COMMITTED RESOURCES ENSURE AN EXPERIMENT THAT CAN MEET ESSENTIAL OBJECTIVES.

5. A NEW WORLD CLIMATE PROGRAM AND WORLD CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE AND MAN, TO DEAL WITH CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND ITS IMPACTS ON HUMAN ACTIVITIES WERE AGREED. THE CONFERENCE IS PLANNED BY THE ORGANIZATION FOR 1979, IN PREPARATION FOR A MORE GENERAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD ONCE THE RESULTS OF THIS TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ARE KNOWN. THE WORLD CLIMATE PROGRAM IS TO BE DEVELOPED FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE NEXT CONGRESS IN APRIL 1979.

6. COMMITTEE NOTED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF ITS COMMISSION FOR HYDROLOGY AND AGREED THAT PLANNING FOR AN INTEGRATED INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGIC SYSTEM SHOULD NEED TO BE FURTHER REVIEWED BY THE 30TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE. CONCERNS OVER THE ORIGINAL FORM OF THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL, WITH POSSIBLE HEAVY FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND ITS MEMBERS, PRODUCED EXTENSIVE DEBATE AND RESULTED IN A NEW APPROACH TO THE SUBJECT.

7. THE PRECIPITATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (PEP) OF THE ORGANIZATION WAS WIDELY SUPPORTED. THE SECRETARY GENERAL WAS ASKED TO DELIVER TO THE 8TH CONGRESS IN EARLY 1979 DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR CARRYING ON THIS PROGRAM. A SUGGESTION BY THE SOVIETS TO ADD A HAIL SUPPRESSION EXPERIMENT WAS REFERRED FOR FURTHER TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC REVIEW BY THE COMMITTEE'S PANEL UNCLASSIFIED

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ON THIS SUBJECT.

8. COMITE CONSIDERED PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR 1978, THE THIRD OF THE ORGANIZATION'S FOUR-YEAR PERIOD, AND MADE ADJUSTMENTS TO REDUCE IMPACT OF SALARY INCREASES AND CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS. UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF NELS JOHNSON (U.S.) A FINANCIAL COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED WHICH WAS ABLE TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM POSSIBLE ECONOMIES BY SCRUTINIZING PARTICULARLY EMPLOYMENT OF CONSULTANTS AND OTHER SHORT-TERM STAFF, MISSION TRAVEL AND CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS. AS A RESULT OF ABOVE SAVINGS AND OTHER FACTORS, INCLUDING FACT THAT ORGANIZATION EARNED SUBSTANTIALLY MORE MISCELLANEOUS INCOME IN 1976 THAN WAS FORESEEN, COMIT WAS ABLE TO LIMIT THE INCREASE IN CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1978 TO ONLY 4.97 PERCENT, ALTHOUGH THE 1978 SHOWS AN INCREASE OF 13.39 PERCENT DERIVING FROM MANDATORY INCREASES IN EXPENSES. IN ORDER TO ALLOW THE UNIMPEDED IMPLEMENTATION OF TECHNICAL PROGRAMS ENVISAGED BY WMO'S SEVENTH CONGRESS, COMITE WAS COMPELLED TO

INCREASE 1978 BUDGET BY \$64,500. HOWEVER, IT WAS DECIDED
THAT THIS AMOUNT WILL BE ABSORBED WITHIN MAXIMUM EXPENDITURES
ORIGINALLY APPROVED BY CONGRESS.SORENSEN

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